

CITY OF MUSKEGON
1st QUARTER – LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Wednesday, January 28, 2009
City Commission Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Carter, Steve Warmington, Steve Wisneski, Steve Gawron, Clara Shepherd, and Larry Spataro

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Wierengo

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Warmington, seconded by Spataro to approve the minutes of January 28, 2009.

MOTION PASSES.

NEW BUSINESS:

Outdoor Seating – Mayor Warmington

Mayor Warmington suggested that an application process and fee be established for those businesses who utilize outdoor seating.

Commissioner Spataro suggested that the current encroachment process be utilized but with a possible change to the current fee schedule.

Motion by Warmington, seconded by Spataro to establish a \$50 fee the first year to those establishments who are licensed through the City and Liquor Control Commission to serve alcohol and utilize outdoor seating on city property. Year two and beyond a \$150 annual fee will be imposed on those establishments who are licensed through the City and Liquor Control Commission to serve alcohol and utilize outdoor seating on city property and a \$100 fee to those food establishments who do not serve alcohol but utilize outdoor seating on city property.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Wisneski, Carter, Warmington, Gawron, Shepherd, and Spataro.

Nays: None.

MOTION PASSES.

Special Assessments – Bryon Mazade

Commissioner Carter stated he would like to take 4/10ths of the current millage marked for street projects and let it replace special assessments.

Mayor Warmington suggested that the Commission evaluate special assessments for 2009 only at this time.

Commissioner Carter left at 6:20 p.m.

Moved by Warmington, seconded by Spataro to rescind the special assessment policy for streets.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Wisneski, Gawron, Shepherd, Spataro, and Warmington.

Nays: None.

MOTION PASSES.

Motion by Spataro, seconded by Warmington that the City Commission will request consideration that a minimum five percent of Community Development Block Grant funds be dedicated toward street improvements and the remainder be allocated from the existing millage not to exceed \$250,000.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Wisneski, Gawron, Shepherd, Spataro, and Warmington.

Nays: None.

MOTION PASSES.

Baggy Pants – Clara Shepherd

Discussion if an ordinance prohibiting wearing “baggy pants” could not be enforced. Such an ordinance is subjective.

Vice Mayor Gawron suggested that the board support education given to the children through the school regarding the issue.

Economic Stimulus Program – Bryon Mazade

Discussion of several proposed projects were discussed. Projects are broken down into timeframes as required such as 30, 60, 90, and 120 days.

Update on Disciplinary Actions and Outcomes – Larry Spataro

Report received.

Update on Building Code Enforcement – Larry Spataro

Deferred at this time.

Update on Neighborhood Business Districts – Larry Spataro

Deferred at this time.

Downtown Plowing of Sidewalks

Commissioner Wisneski requested that the City consider snowplowing sidewalks in the downtown area.

Commissioner Spataro stated that cost is estimated to be \$35,000 - \$40,000.

Mr. Mazade suggested that information be gathered for the City Commission to consider within the next few months.

Economic Stimulus Program

Motion by Wisneski, seconded by Spataro to authorize expenditures up to \$100,000 from the street fund for engineering design of the top three or four projects presented in the economic stimulus program.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Gawron, Shepherd, Spataro, Warmington, and Wisneski.

Nays: None.

MOTION PASSES.

Ann Marie Becker, MMC
City Clerk